

REMARKS

The Office Action of January 24, 2005 states that this application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

Species A (Fig. 1, fixed attachment an both ends);

Species B (Fig. 2, fixed attachment an both ends with drive tang 202b and drive socket 202a);

Species C (Fig. 3, detachably attached at both ends with both male and female attachment means);

Species D (Fig. 4a, detachably attached at both ends with female attachment means at both ends);

Species E (Fig. 4b, fixedly attached to the head and detachably attached to the handle with female attachment means);

Species F (power tools, e.g., claims 1-11);

Species G (air power tools, claims 11-31) and,

Species H (different length of the extension)

The Office Action asserts that the applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, no claim is generic (claim 1 in view of claim 3, i.e, a ratchet extension vs. a removable extension, e.g., Fig. 1 vs. Fig. 4). Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election. Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to

consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention

Applicants elect Species G claims 11-31 for prosecution on the merits. Applicants enclose a PTO-2038 form authorizing the Commissioner to charge \$225.00 to the undersigned credit card to cover the fee for extension of time to respond within the second month for a small entity applicant.

2. The Office Action holds that the applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

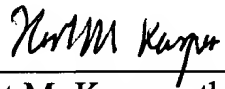
Applicants believe that there is no need for amendment of the inventorship in

the instant patent application.

Reconsideration of all outstanding rejections is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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